

Dr. William (Bill) J. Cooper

Dr. Cooper received his B. S. in Chemistry from Allegheny College in 1968. He then studied Organic Geochemistry at Penn State and received his M. S. in 1971. His Ph. D. is in Marine and Atmospheric Chemistry from the University of Miami, 1988. Presently he is a Professor of Civil and Environmental Engineering, with appointments in Chemical Engineering, and the Department of Policy, Planning and Design in the School of Social Ecology. His initial research was involved in developing a test procedure for chlorine residuals in water, then he was involved in studies to quantify natural sources of biogenic sulfur contributing to acid rain and the photochemistry of dissolved organic carbon in natural waters. This led to his interest in carbon cycling in oceanic and fresh waters, the application of free radical chemistry, advanced oxidation processes, for the treatment of pollutants, and, the environmental photochemical fate of emerging chemicals of concern (pharmaceuticals). He was also part of a large team studying the use of ozone for ballast water treatment to control of invasive species. His recent studies, in the environmental fate of pharmaceuticals, suggest that constructed wetlands may offer a low-cost sustainable approach to treating pharmaceuticals and other emerging chemicals of concern. He has published over 210 papers in peer reviewed journals and 45 chapters in books, and edited 8 books. In November 2011 he was elected as a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) and in 2014 he was elected Fellow of the Association of Environmental Engineering and Science Professors (AEESP).